

Duxbury Clipper, Thursday, May 10, 1973

IN DAYES OF OLDE

Over the past two decades the Clipper has accumulated a wide collection of historical items contained in several old Duxbury scrapbooks. Here are random and sample items:

1864. A Duxbury man sees the Barnstable clam, and goes one better. William Turner of Duxbury dug one last week weighing two pounds two ounces. Don't need but one of those for a bucket.

1868. Investing in "Fancies." A sanguine Duxbury Democrat has "bet" his pile (\$200) on Seymour as next President. if he expects to see more of his money he is a verdant "Demo," or vice versa.

1868. Elm Street Village in Duxbury. (Why will its own friends persist in calling it Tinkertown?) has become one of the neatest, most orderly and industrious communities we have among us. Every house bespeaks thrift. There was some talk that somebody was going to sell liquor hereabouts. Better introduce a hospital, and fill it with small pox and yellow fever patients. The risk and ruin would be far less for a score of years to come. Chil-

dren had better die young than grow up drunkards.

1891. Duxbury Beach is to have a building boom next Summer, as a good many Summer cottages are to be built.

1891. The Pilgrim Congregational Church has changed its name, and will hereafter be known as the Pilgrim Church of Duxbury.

The Academy building has just been painted, and the name "Partridge Academy," with the year when it was erected 1843 has been placed on the front in large gilt letters and figures.

1891 The longevity of Duxbury people has several times been mentioned as remarkable. One of the town officials had occasion recently to run over a list of the inhabitants in connection with their ages, and out of about 1900 persons, found that 74 were 80 years old or upwards, one being 103.

1891. A branch society of the Women's Christian Temperance Union has been formed. Mrs. Mary S. Campbell is president, and Miss J.F. Hathaway, secretary.

1891. Cabot Sampson of Duxbury was formerly in the Gurnet life saving crew and is now totally blind. He lost his sight by keeping his face to windward on the lookout for wrecks and marine mishaps, while pacing the beach on his beat. He deserves a pension as much as any soldier, for the Government when it pays its men the small wage they get, certainly doesn't contract for the man's eyesight in that sum.